

Botanical Society of America.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 27TH.

The first annual meeting of the Botanical Society of America was held in Springfield, Mass., August 27 and 28, 1895.

The council met in the high school building at 3:00 o'clock, all the members being present. Candidates for membership proposed by three members of the society were first considered. Five of the eight names proposed were approved by the council. Other business being prepared for the action of the society, the council adjourned, and the society was immediately called to order by the president, William Trelease.

The report of the council was read by the secretary. The names proposed for active membership were laid over for balloting until the next day, as provided in the constitution, as was also the single nomination by the council for honorary membership.

The election of officers for 1896, by ballots mailed to the secretary, was reported. There had been no election of a president, two nominees having received an equal number of votes. Other officers were elected as follows: Vice-president, William P. Wilson; treasurer, Arthur Hollick; secretary, Charles R. Barnes. The society proceeded to elect a president, choosing Charles E. Bessey.

An invitation to hold a winter meeting in connection with the Society of American Naturalists, at the University of Pennsylvania, was received. It was voted not to hold a winter meeting.

A book having already been sent to the society, it was ordered that all books and pamphlets received be deposited in the library of the Missouri Botanical Garden, and that the secretary report annually the volumes so received.

The report of the treasurer was read and referred to an auditing committee, J. C. Arthur, G. F. Atkinson and Arthur Hollick.

After announcement of the program for Wednesday, the society adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28TH.

The society was called to order by the president at 10:00 A. M. The special business was action upon the nominations

for membership approved by the council. The following were elected active members: M. S. Bebb, Rockford; James R. Dudley, Palo Alto, Cal.; D. P. Penhallow, Montreal, Canada; and W. A. Setchell, New Haven, Conn.

The council having also recommended that Dr. A. W. Chapman, of Apalachicola, Florida, who by his advanced age is practically precluded from active membership, be elected an honorary member, he was unanimously so chosen.

The following papers were then read:

BRITTON, ELIZABETH G.: *Some notes on a revision of the genus Mnium, illustrated with specimens and photographs of types.*—The author showed how nearly the American specimens correspond with European types and descriptions.

BRITTON, N. L.: *The New York Botanical Garden.*—Mr. Britton gave an account of the movement for the establishment of the garden and the plans for its development so far as matured. A fund of \$250,000 has been subscribed, obligating the city of New York to supply \$500,000 for buildings. Two hundred and fifty acres have been set aside in Bronx Park for the garden, and a large-scale topographic map is now being made. It is the intention to provide laboratories and equipment for all departments of research.

Discussed by Messrs. Bailey and Robinson.

ATKINSON, GEO. F.: *A contribution to a knowledge of North American phycophilous fungi.*—Mr. Atkinson gave an account of the morphology and life history of a large number of new or imperfectly known fungi parasitic upon fresh-water algæ, for details of which the paper itself must be awaited.

At the opening of the afternoon session the following resolution was presented by L. H. Bailey:

Resolved: That the Botanical Society of America express its thanks to Dr. N. L. Britton for his account of the condition and progress of the movement for a botanical garden in the city of New York, and congratulate the people of that city on the prospect of its rapid development; and, furthermore, that the society commend the Board of Managers of the Garden and the Board of Scientific Directors for their wisdom in securing a broad foundation and an assurance of liberal management.

The resolution was adopted, and a copy was ordered to be forwarded to the proper officers of the garden.

The following papers were then read:

HOLLICK, ARTHUR: *The genus Liriodendropsis Newb.*—Mr. Hollick described the peculiar forms of liriodendron-like

leaves found in Amboy clays, and showed ten plates illustrating them. These are paralleled by the rudimentary leaves and early stages of perfect leaves of *Liriodendron*, so that the history of the fossil species is epitomized in the living.

THAXTER, ROLAND: *The Laboulbeniaceæ*.—Mr. Thaxter displayed a number of plates prepared in illustration of his monograph on this group, and used them in explaining some very important and novel points in the morphology and life history of its members.

THAXTER, ROLAND: *Notes on aquatic fungi*.—The author described the structure of *Monoblepharis*, and then gave an account of the morphology of a new genus with multiciliate zoospores, a description of which will be published later.

COVILLE, FREDERICK V.: *A synopsis of North American rushes*.—Mr. Coville discussed the probable phylogeny of the various groups of the genus *Juncus*, and pointed out the correspondence of some forms to the area of their geographical distribution.

BRITTON, ELIZABETH G.: *Some corrections in the description of *Coscinodon Raui* and *C. Renauldi*, and a comparison of the two species*.—Read by title, at the author's request.

BARNES, CHARLES R., and TRUE, RODNEY H.: *Summary of a revision of the North American species of the genus *Dicranum**.—This paper was presented by Mr. Barnes. A preliminary list of species recognized was distributed, and comments made upon the more puzzling groups. A list of excluded species contains seventeen out of the eighteen "new species" recently proposed by Kindberg and Carl Müller.

At the close of the reading of papers the society proceeded to elect by ballot two members to serve as councilors for the ensuing year. B. L. Robinson, of Cambridge, and George F. Atkinson, of Ithaca, were elected.

The society then adjourned *sine die*.